

Appl. No. 10./069,409
Response dated January 10, 2005
Reply to Office Action of December 30, 2004

REMARKS

In the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner requires restriction between the following groups.

Group I - claims 12-28, drawn to a process for bonding substrates with a hotmelt adhesive.

Group II - claims 29-30, drawn to a process for applying hotmelt adhesive.

In response to the foregoing restriction, Applicants respectfully traverse. The Examiner asserts that under PCT Rule 13.2, Groups I and II lack the same or corresponding special technical feature(s). The common bond between the subject matter of each of these two groups is not merely that they both relate to hot melt adhesives, but that the adhesive is applied to at least one of two substrates to be bonded together. Further, another common feature relates to the "microwave-activatable primer" of claim 12 and the "nanoscale particles having....properties" of claim 29.

No claims have been withdrawn hereinabove in order to afford the Examiner an opportunity to reconsider the previously stated restriction. However, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.143, Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute herein the claims of Group I. If the Restriction is maintained, Applicants reserve the right to seek patent

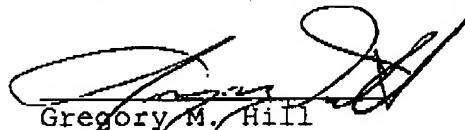
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protection for the non-elected claims in subsequent
divisional applications.

CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks above, Applicants ask for
reconsideration of this restriction and claims. Should any
fees be due for entry and consideration of this Response
that have not been accounted for, the Commissioner is
authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 01-1250.

Respectfully submitted,



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